GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1841
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2002
ASEAN CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome and ASEAN Conference held in the month of October, 2002 in relation to trade and industry in India; and

(b) the steps taken to protect the interest of small and medium industries in India so that they do not suffer the way WTO made them to ?

Answer

INISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)
(a)&(b) : The first India-ASEAN Business Summit was held in New Delhi and Hyderabad on17th and 18th October, 2002 respectively as a joint Government-Business initiative. The Summit was organised to develop and deepen synergies, promote policies and strategies for increasing regional business cooperation between India and ASEAN member countries.The Summit Programme featured day-long events at Delhi and Hyderabad with in-depth discussions in various areas like Infrastructure, Oil & gas, Finance, Tourism, Trade & Investment, Biotechnology & pharmaceuticals, IT and Entertainment.One-to-one business networking meetings and factory/field visits were also arranged.
The issue of protecting the interest of small and medium industries will come up only at a much later stage when exchange of tariff concessions through a possible Agreement on Free Trade Area between India and ASEAN is actually considered.